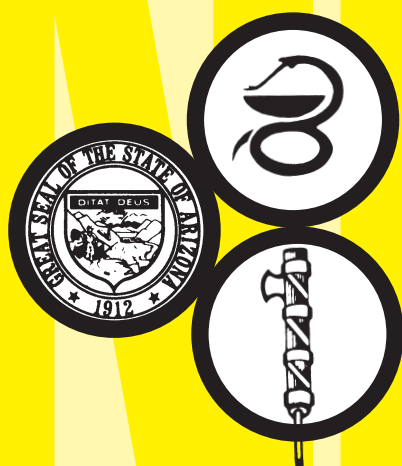


April 2004



Arizona State Board of Pharmacy

4425 W Olive Ave, Suite 140, Glendale, AZ 85302-3844
Web site: www.pharmacy.state.az.us
E-mail: vsevilla@azsdp.com

Published to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law.

Update on Pharmacy Technician Licensure

The Arizona State Board of Pharmacy office is planning for implementation of the long-awaited pharmacy technician licensure rules. Assuming the rules are approved by the Governor's Regulatory Review Council on March 2, 2004, they will take effect on May 2, 2004. We are working on an application form and planning for extra staff during the first month or so. The Board staff will host a meeting at the Board office for pharmacy supervisors sometime in April. The topics to be discussed at the meeting will be the application process, fees, and verification of the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board certification. This should be a very interesting and potentially stressful time at the office, but with everyone working together we should be able to accomplish licensure before October 2004, which will also be time for renewal of pharmacies, pharmacists, and even the newly licensed technicians. Technician licenses are prorated for the first licensure period and assigned to an odd or even group determined by whether or not the license number is an odd or even number. All newly licensed technicians will renew in October 2004, but the even-numbered technicians will renew until October 31, 2006, while the odd numbers will renew until October 31, 2005. This is the same process we use for all permits and licensees issued by the Board.

Look-alike, Sound-alike Drug Errors

On October 23, 2003, the United States Pharmacopeia Medication Errors Reporting Program reported the following errors for the period from March through October 2003: Advicor™/Altacor™, DiaJect®/Diastat®, Levaquin®/Levsin® SL, Sertaline®/Soriatane®, Vicodin®/Visicol®, Tamoxifen®/Temsulosin, Topamax®/Toprol XL, and, finally, Zebeta®/Zytrec®.

These and other errors are occurring because of poor handwriting or miscommunication on the telephone. Please verify with the prescriber when you have any doubt about a prescription.

Administrative Rules – Proposed Rules Posted on Board Web Site

Currently, the Board is discussing and formulating administrative rules for pharmacist immunizations, Board administrative hearings, compounding, and sterile products, among other rules packages. As always, the proposed rules are available on our Web site at www.pharmacy.state.az.us/link62.htm. Also, please feel free to contact our rule writer Dean Wright at rxcop@cox.net with your comments and suggestions.

Disciplinary Actions – Board of Pharmacy

Brent Randle, RPh – \$12,000 fine and suspension for a period of ten (10) days, and thereafter probation for a period of one (1) year for dispensing prescription drugs without authorization from a medical practitioner and fraudulent billing.

James Liberatore, RPh – \$5,000 fine and suspension for a period of ten (10) days, and thereafter probation for a period of one (1) year for dispensing prescription drugs without authorization from a medical practitioner.

James Bataoel, RPh – One year probation for dispensing misfilled compounded prescription.

Douglas McDowell, RPh – At least six (6) month suspension followed by a five (5) year probation as well as a contract with the Pharmacists Assisting Pharmacists in Arizona.

Disciplinary Actions – Other Health Care Practitioner Boards

Notice: Before making a prescription-dispensing or other decision pursuant to information in this issue, you are encouraged to verify the current condition of a license with the appropriate licensing agency (Board).

Michael Schoenhals, MD – termination of probation, November 13, 2003.

Continued on page 4

John V. Dommissie, MD – five year probation, September 1, 2003.

Bradley Schwartz, MD – five year probation, no CII, CII prescribing or office stock, October 10, 2003.

Raymond E. Kauffman, MD – suspension of prescriptive authority, January 21, 2004.

Jeffrey Livovich, MD – suspension of prescriptive authority, January 16, 2004.

Robert G. Logreco, MD – five year probation, December 12, 2003.

Joseph E. Sheppard, MD – suspension of prescriptive authority, December 17, 2003.

Michael S. Biscoe, MD – reprimand for writing multiple Rx's on a prescription blank containing a Controlled Substance, December 12, 2003.

Randall P. Scott, MD – five year probation, November 12, 2003.

Cayetano S. Munoz, MD – suspension of prescriptive authority, December 8, 2003.

Karen Jean Moser, PA – surrender of license, November 19, 2003.

Richard Marcello, MD – five year probation, November 13, 2003.

James D. Gadd, MD – five year probation, November 13, 2003.

John C. Barr, DO – revoked, December 23, 2003.

Nicholas William Bratz, DO – revoked, December 23, 2003.

***Notice:** Before making a prescription, dispensing or other decision pursuant to information in this issue, you are encouraged to verify the current condition of a license with the appropriate licensing agency (Board).*

Elimination of Pharmacist/Technician Ratio

At its January 15, 2004 meeting, the Board confirmed by a five to one roll call vote, that the pharmacist-to-technician ratio will be eliminated in all practice sites as part of the new pharmacy technician licensure rules. The current ratio allowed two technicians to one pharmacist in most community pharmacy practice settings and a third technician was allowed if one of the technicians was certified by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB). Hospital sites have never had a ratio, while mail-order and correctional pharmacies had a four to one ratio. Personnel in a pharmacy will be limited by space requirements which can be reviewed in the Arizona Administrative Code, under R4-23-609, 653, 655, and 671-674. PTCB certification provides the Board with assurances of minimum competency, while the technician licensure rules allow the Board to track and discipline technicians for the first time.

Page 4 – April 2004

The *Arizona State Board of Pharmacy News* is published by the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy and the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc, to promote voluntary compliance of pharmacy and drug law. The opinions and views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions, or policies of the Foundation or the Board unless expressly so stated.

Harlan "Hal" Wand, RPh - State News Editor
Carmen A. Catizone, MS, RPh, DPh - National News Editor
& Executive Editor
Reneeta C. "Rene" Renganathan - Editorial Manager

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Chicago, Illinois
Permit No. 5744

ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Foundation, Inc
700 Busse Highway
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068